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BOROUGH OF BIDEFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE HEALTH OF BIDEFORD

VITAL STATISTICS,

SANITARY WORKS, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1958

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

BY

C. J. CAREY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (LOND).,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

A. E. T. NETTING, M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector

GAZETTE PRINTING SERVICE, GRENVILLE STREET, BIDEFORD

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Public Health Staff

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

C. J. CAREY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

(*Temporary Part-time*)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

Inspector of Meats and Foods

Housing Officer

Petroleum Officer

A. E. T. NETTING, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G. H. WHEELER, Cert. R.S.H.

To the Bideford Borough Council

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1958.

It will be seen from the statistics that the Health of the Borough remains good. The figures given compare very favourably with the previous year, and with those for the country in general. The Vital Statistics show a slight rise in the estimated population and a fall in the birth rate, of the 138 deaths recorded, being 1 death less than last year, 105 were over the age of 65 years, and the commonest cause of death was cardiac and allied diseases. The total number of people on the Tuberculosis Register was 133 giving a figure of 12.86 per 1,000 of the resident population. During the year, 21 visits were made to interview applicants for Council Houses, in order to assess Medical priority, on certificates submitted by Local Practitioners.

I am pleased to state the district continues to hold its own as a Health Resort as will be seen from the General Statistics given in the several Tables.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

Yours faithfully,

C. JOHN CAREY.

Annual Report

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (Statute Acres)	4,068
Population (Census 1951)	10,200
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population, 1958	10,340
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,733
Rateable Value	£150,725
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£596

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Legitimate	Males 71	Females 70	
	Illegitimate	Males 3	Females 2	146
Live birth rate per 1,000 population				14.12
Still-births	Legitimate	Males 2	Females 1	
	Illegitimate	Males —	Females —	3
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births				20.13
Total live and still-births				149
Infant deaths				4
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total				27.40
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, —legitimate ..				28.37
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, —illegitimate ..				Nil
Neo Natal ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ... (first four weeks)				6.85
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				3.42
Maternal deaths (including abortion)				Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births ..				Nil
Deaths—Males 66 Females 72				138
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ..				13.35
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				26
,, ,, Measles (all ages)				Nil
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)				1
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				1

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Comprehensive laboratory facilities are available through the District Pathologist at the North Devon Infirmary at Barnstaple. Full and rapid service is readily available.

The Blood Transfusion Service is centred at the District Laboratory and serves the whole North Devon Area.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter.

AMBULANCES

The Ambulance Service is under the Control of the National Health Service. Modified Group Control is now in operation and all journeys in the North Devon area are co-ordinated through the Barnstaple Ambulance Station. Two motor ambulances are stationed in Bideford for the transport of non-infectious cases. The Isolation Hospital maintains an ambulance which is reserved specially for cases using that Hospital.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR BIDEFORD AREA

The Home Nursing Service is carried out by three District Nurses who combine general nursing with midwifery duties. Their work is of a high standard and there is full co-operation with General Practitioners of the area. Their work in the area does much to relieve the pressure on the Hospital Services.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

A Chest Clinic is established at the North Devon Infirmary at Barnstaple. The treatment of Tuberculous patients is conducted by the Chest Physician at the Chest Centre, North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple. A Comprehensive follow-up scheme for all patients and contacts is directed by him at Barnstaple and Bideford Hospital. Hawley and Hawkmoor Sanitoria serve the area for patients requiring hospitalisation.

A Special Treatment Centre for the treatment of Venereal Disease is at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

HOSPITALS

The Bideford area is provided for by the Bideford and District Hospital. The Hospital is for Medical and Surgical cases and maintains 52 beds. It is a S.E.A.N. Training School. Specialist Services are available at clinics held in the Hospital. The Consultants direct the treatment of

cases admitted as Inpatients. The Isolation Hospital, now called the Kingsley Hospital, situated East-the-Water, provides for infectious cases from the whole of the North Devon Area. This Hospital is well situated for the admission and treatment of any infectious cases arising in the Bideford area, requiring Hospital Care. The Torridge Hospital situated in Meddon Street, provides Hospital care for the chronic sick. It provides for geriatic and chronic medical patients and is very well equipped with modern appliances. At the moment it provides 70 beds, the rest of the building being under reconstruction and modernisation. When completed it is hoped to increase the number of beds to 104.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are conducted by each General Practitioner in the area, in co-operation with the Midwives. Specialist facilities are available at Barnstaple.

BLIND PERSONS

The number of registered blind persons in the Bideford Borough is 21. Causes of disability : Cataract, 9 ; Glaucoma, 2 ; Optic Atrophy, 0 ; and other causes, 10.

There were no cases of Opthalmia Neonatorum notified during 1958.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year :—

Measles	86
Tuberculosis	7
Scarlet Fever	4
Pneumonia	1
Erysipelas	3

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Smallpox and immunisation against Diptheria and Whooping Couch are carried out by the General Practitioners of the area, and also at the Welfare Centres and School Clinics.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out under the Devon County Council Scheme. A good start has been made with inoculation of the younger age groups and it is hoped to extend this to cover all young people up to the age of 25 years.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

Adoptive Public General Acts	
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 .. Private Street Works Act, 1892	15th June, 1893
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907— Parts 2 (except Sec. 29). Parts 3, 4 and 6 Parts 7 (except Secs. 82, 84, 85, and 86) Parts 8, 9 and Part 10 (except Sec. 94)	April, 1909
Public Health Act, 1925, Part (except sections 21 and 22)	1st January, 1926
Section I of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 applied to Sheep, Ewes, Wethers, Rams and Lambs (as regards old area)	1st February, 1934
Ditto (as regards Borough as extended) ..	1st July, 1935

BYELAWS

With respect to Markets	16th February, 1882
With respect to the Driving of Cattle	5th March, 1888
With respect to the Obstruction of Foot-passengers	8th August, 1892
For the navigation of the River Torridge within the Harbour of Bideford	4th July, 1894
With respect to the Lighting of Vehicles ..	11th November, 1899
With respect to the disturbance of persons assembled in public buildings, shooting-galleries, round-abouts, etc., street music and bad language	25th June, 1900
Prohibiting Spitting in Public Places	31st January, 1911
With respect to the Victoria Park Pleasure-Ground	18th January, 1913
With respect to New Streets	10th July, 1928
With respect to the Management of the Public Cemetery (Repealed in Part)	18th August, 1930 and 12th June, 1947
Regulating the use of Motor Boats within the Harbour	17th August, 1931

Relating to Violent Behaviour on Elementary School Premises..	1st April, 1951
For the Regulation of Advertisements ..	3rd December, 1939
With respect to the Decent Conduct of Persons using Public Sanitary Conveniences	1st April, 1937
With respect to :—	
(1) Nuisance contrary to Public Decency ..	
(2) Deposit of litter to the Detriment of Public Amenities	
(3) Wireless, Loudspeakers, Gramophones, etc.	1st February, 1937
For securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food	15th November, 1950
With respect to the supply of water	1st April, 1951
Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines ..	18th January, 1950
Prohibiting cycling on certain footpaths ..	1st April, 1951
With respect to Victoria Park	1st February, 1953
With respect to the Fouling of Footpaths by Dogs	15th June, 1953
With respect to Library, Reading Room and Museum	18th September, 1953
With respect to Cycling on the Riverbank ..	9th November, 1953
With respect to Building Byelaws	31st December, 1953
For the prevention and suppression of nuisances with respect to : 1, Loading of Vehicles ; 2, Deposit of Mud on Highways ; 3, Noisy Animals ; 4, Preservation of Road Margins laid out for Ornamental Purposes	1st July, 1957

TAB

NOTIFIAB

Disease	Total Cases Notified												
	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over	Tot
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Measles	3	2	5	8	4	51	9	3	—	1	—	—	86
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DISEASES

Total Deaths								
Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over	Total
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1958 AND PREVIOUS 5 YEARS

Years	Estimated population for Year	Births		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Nett				Under 1 year of age		At all Ages	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1000 population	Number	Rate per 1000 births	Number	Rate per 1000 population
1953	10210	146	14.29	152	14.89	5	34.25	152	14.89
1954	10300	159	15.44	148	14.37	5	31.45	148	14.37
1955	10220	136	13.31	140	13.70	1	7.35	140	13.70
1956	10200	141	13.82	168	16.47	2	14.18	168	16.47
1957	10210	174	17.04	139	13.61	2	11.49	139	13.61
1958	10340	146	14.12	138	13.35	4	27.40	138	13.35

TABLE II

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT

	Nett deaths at the subjoined ages o									
	All Ages		Under 1 year		1 and under 2 years		2 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coronary disease, angina	15	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hypertension with heart disease	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heart disease	8	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory disease	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases....	2	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other accidents	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	66	72	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—

Residents ' whether occurring within or without the District

15 and under 25 years		25 and under 35 years		35 and under 45 years		45 and under 55 years		55 and under 65 years		65 and under 75 years		75 and under 85 years		85 and under 95 years		95 and over	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	5	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	7	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	3	6	4	3	4	1	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	8	2	9	—	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	3	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	1	2	1	2	1	12	9	20	15	21	29	5	14	—	1

TABLE IV

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Cases			Vision not Impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At home	In hospital				
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

TABLE V

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 ,, ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 ,, ...	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
35-45 ,, ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 ,, ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals....	3	3	—	1	—	1	—	—

TABLE VI

INFANT MORTALITY

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
All other accidents	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	4

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE BIDEFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting my Eighth Annual Report on the sanitary administration of the area.

As in previous years by far the greatest amount of inspectorial time has been spent in providing a one hundred per cent. meat inspection service. Facilities at the Abattoir remain inadequate but it is hoped that the situation will be considerably improved when the general arrangements connected with the abattoir and cattle market are clarified, the two undertakings being so closely associated.

In connection with the cattle market, activities were renewed to resuscitate the weekly livestock markets and so great was the success attendant upon the efforts of the Auctioneers and others concerned during the four months of operation to the end of the year that greater urgency was given to seeking a more favourably situated site of sufficient size to accommodate a much larger cattle market. It was abundantly clear that the present site could no longer accommodate both abattoir and cattle market. With the removal of the market to another site, space will become available to extend and enlarge the abattoir and enable it to be brought up to a standard more in keeping with present day requirements.

In the sphere of Housing, only nine applications for Certificate of Disrepair were received and these were dealt with in the first half of the year. Since then activities under this heading appear to have ceased. Whether this is due to the willingness of tenants to bear the increased rents irrespective of the condition of their dwellings or whether the landlord prefers to accept the lower rent is not known. Of the above nine applications only one was refused. In None of the remaining eight cases has a cancellation of certificate been sought although the works of repair in each case have been carried out.

Eight applications for improvement grants were received covering work estimated to cost £3,211 7s. 0d. one of which and one other were not proceeded with. In the case of one of the remaining proposals upon completion of the work the proposer withdrew his application and surrendered his grant in order to let his premises at an economic rent.

Very little progress was made with the Council's proposals for slum clearance.

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

Dwellings inspected under Public Health Acts	127
Revisits made under Public Health Acts	73
Miscellaneous under Public Health Acts	82
Dwellings inspected under Housing Acts	73
Revisits made under Housing Acts	64
Miscellaneous under Housing Acts	7
Council Houses (including investigation of Council House applications)	136
Housing Act (Overcrowding)	3
Housing Act (Improvement Grants)	24
Housing Act (Improvement Grants) Revisits	49
Rent Act	15
Rent Act-Revisits	10
Certificates of Disrepair	2
Meat Inspections	760
Inspection of Food and Food Premises	34
Inspection of Food and Food Premises—Revisits	6
Inspection of Ice Cream Premises	1
Inspection of Food Van	1
Inspection of Pannier Market and Butchers Row	26
Inspection of Food Poisoning	8
Shops Act	1
Food Hygiene Regulations	5
Factories	12
Factories Revisits	10
Inspection made under Fire Escapes in case of Fire	8
Inspections made under Fire Escapes in case of Fire, Revisits	1
Water Samples—Bacteriological	99
Water Sample—Bacteriological (Swimming Bath)	1
Water Samples—Chemical	14
Water Supply—Investigations	9
Petroleum	121
Petroleum—Revisits	13
Infectious Diseases	4
Verminous Premises	3
Verminous Premises—Revisits	3
Drainage	49
Mortuary	4
Smoke Observation	1
Refuse Tip	3
Rodent Control	21
Rodent Control—Revisits	9
Number of Preliminary Notices served	35
Number of Preliminary Notices completed	38
Number of Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act	—
Number of Statutory Notices completed under Public Health Act	1
Number of Notices served under Food Hygiene Regulations 1955/56	3
Number of Notices completed under Food Hygiene Regulations 1955/56	7
Number of Notices served under Factories Act	—
Number of Notices completed under Factories Act	—
Number of Houses demolished	9
Number of Houses demolished voluntarily by owners	1

The Chief Defects that have been dealt with are :—

New Roof fitted	1
Roofs repaired	42
New Doors fitted	9
Defective Doors, Locks, etc., repaired or renewed	144
New Chimney built	1
Chimney Cowls fitted	11
Chimney Pots renewed	4
New Floors laid	3
Defective Floors repaired	7
New Window Frames fitted	11
Defective Windows repairs and Sashcords renewed	82
New Stairs fitted	1
Defective Stairs repaired	2
New Handrail fitted	1
Defective Handrails repaired	7
Exterior plaster repaired	21
Interior plaster repaired	37
New Ceilings fitted	2
Defective Ceilings repaired	20
New W.Cs. provided	6
New W.C. Pans fitted	4
Defective W.C. Flushing Cisterns, Overflows and seats reapaired or renewed	136
Defective Eaves Gutters, Vent Pipes and Down Pipes repaired or renewed	15
Choked Drains cleared	35
Defective Drains repaired	5
New Manholes fitted	5
New Sinks or Washbasins fitted	13
Defective Sinks or Washbasins repaired or renewed	11
Defective Cookers, Firegrates or Stoves repaired or renewed	175
Defective Electric Fridges, Washboilers, Points and Switches repaired or renewed	64
Defective Gas Boilers or Geysers repaired or renewed	45
Defective Water Supply, Water Tanks, Taps and Pipes repaired or renewed	56
Broken Glass replaced	12
New Draining Boards supplied	19
New Clothes Posts supplied	36
Roadway, Garden Paths, Gates and Fences repaired or renewed	93
Defective Waste Pipes renewed	3
Coal Bunker rebuilt	1
Whole Houses re-decorated	11
Rooms re-decorated	19
Accumulation cleared	1
Rising Dampness remedied	6
New Oil Furnace fitted	1
New Bathrooms built	5
New Hot Water Systems installed	6
New Scullery provided	1
New Coalshed provided	1

Housing

Number of New Houses completed and occupied during the year :—

(1)	By the Borough Council	13
(2)	By Private Enterprise	13
		26

The thirteen Council Houses were sited as follows :—

Eight houses at Stucley Road.
Five houses at Grenville Estate.

The number of new Council houses completed during the year was a further reduction on the number for the previous year. This results from the decision of the Council to cease building operations other than to provide accommodation for persons displaced from clearance areas or other unfit dwellings.

Applicants awaiting Council accommodation including those wishing to transfer from their present house to either a larger one or a cheaper one totalled 81 at the close of the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND INFECTION

The following cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified during the year :—

Scarlet Fever	4
Measles	86
Tuberculosis	7
Pneumonia	1
Erysipelas	3

Number of houses disinfected for :—

Notifiable Infectious Diseases	7
Tuberculosis	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(*i*) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	1	1	—
(*ii*) Factories not included in (*i*) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	80	11	4	—
(*iii*) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	—	—	—
	101	12	5	—

2. Defects Found.

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—							
(*a*) Insufficient	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	10	4	2	Nil	4	Nil	10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	12
Total	60	6	3	Nil	4	Nil	60

Part VIII of the Act. OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers In August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome Premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel—Making, Etc.	121	—	—	—	—	—

RAINFALL

The Borough Surveyor kindly supplied the following particulars of the rainfall recorded at Gammaton and Jennetts for the year 1958.

	Gammaton	*Jennetts*
January	3.59	4.01
February	4.35	4.34
March	0.76	0.62
April	0.91	1.23
May	3.39	3.12
June	3.09	2.90
July	3.35	2.39
August	4.35	4.57
September	4.92	6.23
October	4.38	4.19
November	3.10	3.33
December	3.95	4.04
	40.14	40.97
	Inches	Inches

Water Supply

A satisfactory supply of water continued to be supplied by the Council from their two sources, namely Jennetts Reservoir and Gammaton Reservoir supplemented in the former case by water from the Yeo-Duntz stream pumped from Edge Mill to the reservoir and in the latter by water purchased in bulk from the North Devon Water Board and piped to the clear water tank at Gammaton. Raw waters were treated by filtration and all waters were chlorinated before passing into circulation ; generally speaking the quality of the water has been satisfactory, and at no time during the year was it found necessary to curtail supplies. Work of detecting leaks was carried out by the Water Department and this contributed considerably to the conservation of water.

No major works to the town mains or waterworks were undertaken during the year. Preparatory work in connection with the following projects were however proceeded with :—

(*a*) The laying of a new trunk main from the Buckland Road Service reservoir to improve supplies to the west side of the town ;

(*b*) The construction of a new clear water tank with ancillary works to facilitate the treatment and improve the quality of the water at the Gammaton Reservoir.

Descaling of the mains in the Nutaberry area was undertaken following the report of considerable reduction in water pressure in this area.

Fifty-nine samples of water were taken from various points on the Jennetts supply and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter for Bacteriological examination. Three of these samples fell below the standard and the other fifty-six samples were Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

Forty-eight samples of water were taken from various points on the Gammaton supply and sent for Bacteriological examination. Four of these samples fell below the standard and forty-four samples were Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Five samples of water were taken from a private house (well supplies)· One sample was satisfactory, three samples failed and one sample was broken in transit. Improvements to both wells on this premises were in hand.

SWIMMING BATHS

One sample of water taken from the swimming bath belonging to a private college showed the presence of bacterium coli (type 1). Investigation revealed that the chlorination plant was providing inadequate dosage and the matter was remedied immediately.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No extensions of modifications to the Town's Sewerage System have been undertaken during the year.

INSECT PESTS

Very little trouble was experienced from infestations.

One house was disinfested for fleas.

One house was treated for bugs.

The Stream at the Sports Ground was treated for flies.

The surface of the Refuse Tip was treated with " Tip Dressing " as preventative measure against the breeding of flies.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year the testing and treatment of sewers was undertaken on one occasion. It was found however, that the sewers for the most part, were again comparatively free from infestation.

The Refuse tip was frequently treated by pre-baiting and poisoned baits to exterminate rats, and this was generally successful.

Inspection of premises in the area continued and infestations found were treated by the Council's Rodent Operator. No charge was made for work done by the Council in respect of domestic premises.

Five hundred and eleven dwelling houses and one hundred and eighty-four business premises were visited and treatment was carried out on six dwelling houses for rats and mice.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Council's slaughterhouse continued in the occupation of the North Devon Meat Marketing Society Ltd., whose throughput continued to increase. The requirements of butchers, not only in the town but in neighbouring districts and areas as far afield as Ilfracombe, Barnstaple, Okehampton and Exeter and those of wholesale markets in London, were satisfactorily catered for. Provision continued to be made also for individual butchers to have their livestock slaughtered.

During the year 29,111 animals were slaughtered and dressed at the Abattoir, and of these 81 Bullocks, 39 Calves, 681 Sheep and 186 Pigs were sent to the Abattoir for Emergency slaughter.

In addition to the above, there were brought to the Abattoir the " dressed " carcases of 1 Bullock, 1 Calf, 23 Sheep and 2 Pigs.

This is a further increase on the previous year's throughput. In addition to the usual diseases and conditions commonly found in animals slaughtered for food, cysticercus bovis continued to appear in cattle and 105 cases were found. In all circumstances, the parts found with visible cysts were condemned, and the carcases sent away for refrigeration for the requisite period before being released for human consumption.

The " dressed " carcases were of animals that had been slaughtered and " dressed " at farms as the animals, because of injury or some other emergency, had been unable to travel to the Abattoir.

STUNNING. In compliance with section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, all animals that are killed in the slaughterhouse are rendered insensible to pain by means of a mechanically operated instrument.

The following Tables give a summary of the work carried out :—

Table A. Gives details of the animals killed and the number of carcases or organs condemned, also showing percentages of the carcases affected, differentiating between

1—All diseases except Tuberculosis.

2—Tuberculosis only.

3—Cysticercosis.

Table B. Gives the weight of the Meat and Offal condemned and the causes of condemnation.

Table C. Shows the amount of " Other Foodstuffs " condemned and the reasons for condemnation.

TABLE A

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	2737	463	387	16502	9022	—
Dressed Carcases....	1	—	1	23	2	—
Number inspected	2738	463	388	16525	9024	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned....	3	24	57	216	27	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1626	378	4	3248	1121	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	59.49	86.82	15.72	20.96	12.72	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned....	3	1	—	—	4	—
Carcases of which part or organ was demned....	48	16	—	—	219	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.86	3.67	—	—	2.47	—
Cysticercosis. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	89	15	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted treatment by refrigeration	89	15	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	1	—	—	—	—

TABL

SUMMARY OF MEAT CONDEMNATION WIT

Food Stuffs Condemned	Cause of Condemnation	Whole Carcases
Beef	Tuberculosis	4
Beef Parts	Do.	
Beef Offal	Do.	—
Beef	Other Causes	28
Beef Parts	Do.	—
Beef Offal	Do.	—
Veal	Other Causes	57
Veal Offal	Do.	—
Pork	Tuberculosis	4
Pork Parts	Do.	—
Pork	Other Causes	27
Pork Parts	Do.	—
Pork Offal	Do.	—
Mutton	Emaciation	61
Do.	Ill-bled	38
Do.	Peritonitis	19
Do.	Septicaemia	15
Do.	Dropsy	15
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Metritis	11
Do.	Pleurisy	10
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Moribund	8
Do.	Oedema	8
Do.	Fevered	5
Do.	Injuries	5
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Abscessed	5
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Black Gargot	2
Do.	Pyaemia	2
Do.	Gangrene	2
Do.	Arthritis	2
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Anaemia	1
Do.	Uraemia	1
Do.	Deformity	1
Do.	Jaundice	1
Do.	Bruising	1
Do.	Do.	—
Do.	Decomposition	1
Do.	Carcinoma	1
Do.	Toxaemia	1
Mutton Offal	Distoma Hepaticum—Cysts and Congestion	

Part Carcases	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
—	—	19	1	20				
12	—	18	1	25				
52	—	15	1	4				
—	6	1	3	23				
29	—	18	2	14				
1975	10	13	1	20				
					20	7	0	22
—	1	5	2	27				
4	—	—	—	23				
					1	5	3	22
—	—	9	3	24				
219	1	3	1	16				
—	1	5	1	17				
31	—	5	0	3				
1090	1	12	1	20				
					4	16	0	24
—	1	5	2	10				
—	1	5	1	23				
—	—	8	1	24				
—	—	8	2	16				
—	—	8	3	18				
10	—	1	3	24				
—	—	5	3	19				
—	—	6	1	23				
10	—	3	0	11				
—	—	5	1	6				
—	—	5	0	15				
—	—	2	1	25				
—	—	3	2	11				
14	—	1	2	5				
—	—	2	2	26				
3	—	—	2	17				
—	—	1	1	27				
—	—	—	3	3				
—	—	1	2	17				
—	—	—	2	19				
5	—	—	3	16				
—	—	—	2	8				
—	—	—	1	25				
—	—	—	—	23				
—	—	—	2	2				
—	—	—	—	21				
2	—	—	2	7				
—	—	—	1	13				
—	—	—	2	20				
—	—	—	3	9				
3204	3	6	3	1				
					9	12	2	8
					36	1	3	20

TABLE C

Food Stuffs Condemned	Cause of Condemnation	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
225 Tins of Meat	Tins blown or decomposition	—	6	3	15	3
140 Tins of Vegetables	Do.	—	1	1	22	1
19 Tins of Soup	Do.	—	—	—	17	11
71 Tins of Fish	Do.	—	—	1	14	12¼
3 Boxes of Fish	Decomposition	—	—	3	3	0
536 Tins of Fruit	Tins damaged and blown	—	12	2	16	0
50 Tins of Tomatoes	Do.	—	—	2	14	0
25 Tins of Milk	Do.	—	—	—	24	0
5 Tins of Cream	Do.	—	—	—	1	14
3 Tins of Creamed Rice	Do.	—	—	—	2	14½
1 Tin of Spaghetti	Do.	—	—	—	1	0
1 Tin of Plum Pudding	Do.	—	—	—	1	0
2 Tins of Marmalade	Tins damaged and leaking	—	—	—	3	12
2 Tins of Golden Syrup	Do.	—	—	—	4	0
3 Packets of German Bread	Mouldy	—	—	—	2	10
1 Carton of Dried Fruit	Do.	—	—	1	2	0
1 Box of Cheese Spread	Do.	—	—	—	—	8
Part Box of Liver-Sausage	Do.	—	—	—	4	6
21 Packets of Pancake-Mixture	Stale and Mouldy	—	—	—	7	14
1 Packet of Pontelli Mints	Stale and Fermenting	—	—	—	3	0
9 Packets of Candied Peel	Damaged and Dirty	—	—	—	1	15½
3 Packets of Dripping	Do.	—	—	—	1	8
1 Case of Desicated Coconut	Blue Mould and Rancid	—	1	0	4	0
6 Boxes of Fruit	Soft, pulpy and mildewed	—	—	2	22	0
	Total ..	1	5	1	23	1¼

The number of food premises in this area, by type of business is :—

(*a*)	Bakehouses	3
	Butchers Shops	19
	Cafes and Restaurants including Fish Saloons	23
	Confectioners	24
	Fish and Chip Shop	2
	Fishmongers	5
	Greengrocers	22
	Grocers and Provision Dealers	44
	Market	1

(*b*) 10 Premises are registered for the manufacture or storage of preserved foods ;

38 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, one being a wholesale store supplying other retailers.

In addition there is one registered manufacturer of ice cream using the cold mix method of manufacture.

(*c*) Condemned food is disposed of as follows :—

(*i*) tinned foods and small quantities of provisions are taken by the Council's cleansing department and buried at the bottom of the refuse tip ;

(*ii*) condemned meat from butchers shops is collected and taken to the slaughterhouse where it is collected together with condemnations from the slaughterhouse by a firm who has given an undertaking to the Council that the material taken will be reduced to fats or converted to fertilizers.

(*d*) Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-1956.

84 visits of inspection were made to food premises, vans and stalls.

Minor improvements were secured in a number of instances and in one case works of an extensive nature involving structural repairs and alteration were being proceeded with.

MILK SUPPLY

Eleven purveyors of milk are registered as distributors, one of these being a large concern which is licensed by the Food and Drugs Authority as a pasteurising establishment. This establishment, in addition to selling by retail, supplies by wholesale all but two of the remaining distributors.

Four licenses to use the designation " Tuberculin Tested " and seven licences to use the designation " Pasteurised " were issued during the year. One supplementary licence in relation to the sale of pasteurised milk by a distributor from premises outside the Borough was also issued.

There are three premises registered as a dairy.

PETROLEUM LICENCES

Licences were renewed for 33 premises to permit the storage of petroleum spirit. The total quantity of petroleum spirit stored covered by these licences amounted to 42,563 gallons. A further 60 gallons was stored on premises by virtue of the provisions of The Petroleum Spirit (Motor Vehicles, etc.) Regulations 1929.

I wish to thank all members and officials of the Corporation and especially Dr. Carey and the Staff in my office for their help and consideration during the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

A. E. T. NETTING.